**Year 6/7 Science: Classification of Invertebrates**

Invertebrates are living creatures without a backbone. They include sponges, coelenterates (jellyfish), worms, molluscs, echinoderms (sea-urchins, sea-cucumbers and starfish) and arthropods, which includes crustaceans, insects, arachnids and myriapods (many-legged – centipedes and millipedes).

On your netbooks, Encarta has a “Critter Corner” which includes the following activities:

**Slime Time** includes an octopus, starfish, earthworm, frog, caterpillar, snail, leech and sea anemone.

**Insect, Arachnid or Crustacean** includes a crab, cockroach, prawn, spiders, mites, ladybirds and mosquitoes.

From these activities, and using the internet, find and copy at least three images of each of the following organisms into the boxes.

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| **Protozoans** | These are microscopic animals whose body consists of only one cell. They live in water, or as parasites inside other organisms. | |
| **Sponges** | Soft structures made up of many cells that live in a group in water. | |
| **Coelenterates** | These are soft, hollow-bodied animals. Most live in the sea. They have only one body opening and no body organs. Food is usually live prey caught by tentacles and paralysed by special stinging cells. | |
| **Worms** | These have a soft body that can be flat, round or thread-like. Some have a body divided up by rings into a series of segments. | |
| **Molluscs** | These have a soft body usually protected by a shell. In some the shell is greatly reduced. | |
| **Echinoderms** | These have a tough, spiny skin. Most of them are star-shaped. They all live in the sea. | |
| **Arthropods**  These have a hard cuticle, a segmented body and jointed limbs. They are divided into four groups, mainly on the basis of the number of legs. | **Insects**  3 pairs of legs |  |
| **Crustaceans**  2 pairs of antennae and many legs |  |
| **Arachnids**  4 pairs of legs |  |
| **Myriapods**  Many legs |  |